

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /071 W

-----260913 052696 /10

R 252319Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 570

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EO 11652 : N/A

TAGS : PFOR RQ MX

SUBJ : PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE SOLIDARITY MONTH IN MEXICO

REF : 76 MEXICO 8145

1. LEFTIST DAILY EL DIA HAS GIVEN FULL COVERAGE TO A MONTH LONG "NATIONAL SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF PUERTO RICO" WHICH IS REPORTEDLY SCHEDULED FROM FEB 20 TO MARCH 15 AND IS TO CONSIST OF FILMS, ROUNDTABLES, SEMINARS, ETC. IN "TWENTY CITIES IN MEXICO INCLUDING THE CAPITAL".

2. CHIEF SPOKESMAN FOR THE CAMPAIGN APPEARS TO BE NATALIO VASQUEZ PALLARES, A WELL-KNOWN MEXICAN LEFTIST WHOSE MOST RECENT ACTIVITIES INCLUDED PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON MERCENARIES IN ANGOLA (FOR FURTHER INFO SEE REFTEL). VASQUEZ IS NOW IDENTIFIED AS HEADING THE "MEXICAN-PUERTO RICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS" AN ENTITY HERETOFORE UNKNOWN TO THE EMBASSY. OTHER INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED BY THE PRESS AS INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE ISMAEL DAVILA AND SANTIAGO VALLES OF THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY, ALFONSO MEJIA GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT OF MEXICAN SECTION OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND AN OFFICER OF THE MEXICAN-CUBAN INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL RE-

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LATIONS, AND LUIS RIVERA TERRAZAS, RECTOR OF THE AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF PUEBLA.

3. IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCING THE PROGRAM AND IN THE REPORTS OF THE OPENING SESSION, FAMILIAR THEMES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT WERE REPEATED. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS THAT THE TONE OF THE ACCUSATIONS

AGAINST THE US HAS GROWN MORE STRIDENT IN THE FACE OF  
EX-PRESIDENT FORD'S PUERTO RICAN STATEHOOD PROPOSAL.  
SAMPLES OF THE HEIGHTENED ACCUSATIONS INCLUDE:

1) 60 PERCENT OF ALL PUERTO RICANS RECEIVE FOOD STAMPS  
WHICH IMPEDE MEN FROM PARTICIPATING IN  
POLITICS AND FORCE WOMEN TO USE BIRTH CONTROL;

2) THE US AND PR GOVERNMENTS ARE UNDERTAKING A  
MASSIVE EXPORTATION OF PUERTO RICANS TO US  
CITIES SO THAT THE POPULATION OF THE ISLAND  
CAN BE REPLACED BY CUBAN AND OTHER "COUNTER-  
REVOLUTIONARY" EXILES;

3) US ESPIONAGE SYSTEMS OPERATING IN PUERTO  
RICO ARE LINKED TO ESPIONAGE CENTERS IN  
BRAZIL AND AFRICA;

4) INVESTMENT IN PUERTO RICO HAS REACHED  
A TOTAL OF \$13 BILLION, OR THE EQUIVALENT  
OF \$1 MILLION PER SQUARE KILOMETER (AN  
INTERESTING ALTHOUGH USELESS BIT OF INFO).

4. IN A CATCH-22 REQUIREMENT, THE SPOKESMEN OF THE  
CAMPAIGN HAVE DISCOUNTED ANY PLEBISCITE ON THE PUERTO  
RICAN STATEHOOD ISSUE, ARGUING THAT ANY SUCH MOVE WOULD  
BE INVALID IF NOT VOTED BY "AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN  
PEOPLE."

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5. SO FAR ONLY EL DIA AND EXCELSIOR HAVE REPORTED ON  
THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN FOR THE INDEPENDENCE  
OF PUERTO RICO. EMBASSY DOES NOT EXPECT THE EVENT TO  
GAIN WIDESPREAD ATTENTION, BUT WE WILL KEEP DEPT  
APPRISED OF ANY FURTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, OR  
ANY INDICATIONS OF CUBAN PARTICIPATION.  
THOMPSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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